

XII.A.

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY SPECIAL TELEPHONIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND JOINT BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING – SPECIAL JOINT WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE, AND FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE SPECIAL JOINT WORKSHOP MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2021

The Special Telephonic Meeting of the Board of Directors and Joint Special Telephonic Workshop of the Board, Water Resources Committee, and Finance & Administration Committee of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 12:30 p.m. via teleconference in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and Resolution No. 2021-492 adopted by the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors on November 29, 2021, with Chair Cannon Michael presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Division 1

Vince Lucchesi, Alternate for Bobby Pierce
Anthea Hansen, Director
Rick Gilmore, Director - Lea Emmons, Alternate

Division 2

William Bourdeau, Director
Ara Azhderian, Alternate for Michael Linneman
Bill Diedrich, Director (arrived late)

Division 3

Chris White, Director - Jarrett Martin, Alternate
Cannon Michael, Director
Ric Ortega, Director (arrived late) - Ellen Wehr, Alternate

Division 4

Jeff Cattaneo, Director
Sara Singleton, Alternate for Joseph Tonascia

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Director
Tom Birmingham, Director
Manny Amorelli, Director (arrived late)

Water Resources Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio

Cannon Michael
William Bourdeau

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Alternate

Division 2

Bill Diedrich, Member

Division 3

Chris White, Director - Ric Ortega, Alternate

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Division 4

Jeff Cattaneo, Alternate

Division 5

Tom Birmingham, Member - Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Finance & Administration Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio

Cannon Michael
William Bourdeau

Division 1

Rick Gilmore, Member - Anthea Hansen, Alternate

Division 2

Bobbie Ormonde, Member

Division 3

Chris White, Member - Jarrett Martin, Alternate

Division 4

Sara Singleton, Member - Dana Jacobson, Alternate

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Member - Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Friant Water Authority

Wilson Orvis, Alternate for Jason Phillips

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Joyce Machado, Director of Finance
Lauren Neves, Accountant III
Cathy Bento, Accountant II
Darlene Neves, Accountant II
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cannon Michael and roll was called.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

None.

3. Board of Directors to Consider Adopting Resolution Re-Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Gavin Newsom (Mar. 4, 2020), Proclaiming the State of

Emergency Continues to Directly Impact the Ability of Members of the Legislative Bodies of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority to Meet Safely in Person, and Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for Such Legislative Bodies for the Period December 14, 2021 through January 13, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions.

General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reported that because the Authority's Water Resources Committee and Finance & Administration Committee have meetings scheduled for January 10, 2022, and the Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2022, the Authority would like to allow the opportunity to conduct business remotely in compliance with Government Code section 54953(e). Akroyd reported that staff is proposing adoption of a new resolution, and as drafted, the resolution makes all the requisite findings to continue to meet via teleconference pursuant to AB 361.

Director Rick Gilmore made the motion, seconded by Director William Bourdeau, for the Board to adopt the Resolution Re-Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Gavin Newsom (March 4, 2020), Proclaiming the State of Emergency Continues to Directly Impact the Ability of Members of the Legislative Bodies of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority to Meet Safely In-Person and Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for such Legislative Bodies for the Period December 14, 2021 through January 13, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Lucchesi, Hansen, Gilmore, Bourdeau, Azhderian, White, Michael, Wehr, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

4. Review Proposed FY23 O&M and Activity Budgets

Executive Director Federico Barajas reviewed the process of developing the proposed FY23 O&M and Activity budgets. Barajas discussed comparisons between the FY22 and proposed FY23 budgets. Barajas reported that the O&M budget has been approved by the O&M and Finance & Administration Committees, and it will be presented to the Board next month. Barajas reported that the Activity Agreement Budget will go to Water Resources Committee in January, and the Board in February.

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave then reviewed the proposed FY23 O&M budget in detail. Arroyave reported that the proposed FY23 O&M Budget, in total, is \$28,543,128. Arroyave reported that in comparison to the FY22 budget of \$28,451,353, this is an overall increase of 0.32%. The total proposed self-funded portion paid by the water users is \$28,470,317, which is a 0.32% increase from the FY22 budget. The Routine Operations & Maintenance portion of the budget increased by 11.82%. Arroyave reported that the Extraordinary Operations & Maintenance (EO&M) portion of the budget increased by 39.12% and the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP-USBR Funded) decreased by 48.6%. Arroyave reported that this budget includes a 3% salary adjustment placeholder, but this is not consistent with the

current salary policies. Arroyave reported that the Authority salary policy provides for salary adjustments based on salary surveys every three years and in the in-between years based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Pacific Cities (West with less than 2,500,000 Population). Arroyave reported that the current CPI for August-November averages 6.7%. Pablo reported that the Authority is proposing two new additional positions, an apprentice control operator and an apprentice plant mechanic. Staff answered questions posed by Board and Committee members.

Executive Director Federico Barajas presented the draft proposed FY23 Activity Agreement Budget focusing on the General Membership and Leg Ops funds. General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reviewed the legal components of the proposed budget. Policy Director Scott Petersen discussed the technical and legislative advocacy components of the proposed budget. Barajas presented the summary sheet included in the packet. Barajas reported that the projected actuals will be updated before it is brought to the Board. General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd provided information on the Deputy General Counsel position. Akroyd reported that if the Authority fills the Deputy General Counsel position, some of the work currently performed by outside counsel could be performed "in house". Akroyd reported that some "Internal" matters in which the Deputy General Counsel would provide support include: (1) California Public Records Act requests, (2) Ralph M. Brown Act compliance, (3) drafting Board resolutions and other documents for Board and committee meetings, (4) contract/agreement drafting and review, and (5) Activity Agreement support. Some of the "external" areas where the Deputy General Counsel would support the General Counsel include: (1) administrative/regulatory actions proposed by federal or state agencies, (2) questions posed by Board and Committee members, (3) quasi-adjudicatory proceedings before state agencies, and (4) transactions between the Water Authority and federal, state, and local agencies. Staff answered questions posed by Board and Committee members.

5. Review Preliminary Illustrative WY22 O&M Rates

Finance Director Joyce Machado reviewed the preliminary illustrative WY22 O&M rates, which are based on a 0% Ag allocation using the same estimated deliveries that were used in the approved current rates. Machado reviewed the impact to rates from 5%-3% salary increase. Staff answered questions posed by Board and Committee members.

6. Executive Director's Report.

Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the San Luis Transmission Project package will be presented to the Board in February for action.

7. Agenda Items 7-8: Closed Session Report.

Chair Cannon Michael adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 2:37 p.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 3:28 p.m., General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd stated that no reportable actions were taken.

8. Agenda Item 9: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 (a) (3)

No reports.

9. Agenda Item 10: Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:29 p.m.

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY BOARD
OF DIRECTORS REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING
MINUTES FOR December 9, 2021

The Board of Directors of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 9:30 a.m. via teleconference in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and Resolution No. 2021-492 adopted by the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors on November 29, 2021, with Chair Cannon Michael presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Division 1

David Weisenberger, Director
Bobby Pierce, Director - Vince Lucchesi, Alternate
Anthea Hansen, Director
Rick Gilmore, Director

Division 2

Ceil Howe, Alternate for Ryan Ferguson
William Bourdeau, Director
Michael Linneman, Director - Ara Azhderian, Alternate
Bill Diedrich, Director (arrived during Item 10)

Division 3

Chris White, Director - Jarrett Martin, Alternate
Cannon Michael, Director
Ric Ortega, Director - Ellen Wehr, Alternate

Division 4

John Varela, Director - Aaron Baker, Alternate
Gary Kremen, Director - Richard Santos, Alternate
Jeff Cattaneo, Director
Sara Singleton, Alternate for Joe Tonascia

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Director
Tom Birmingham, Director
Manny Amorelli, Director

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
Frances Mizuno, Special Projects Administrator
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Joyce Machado, Director of Finance
Lauren Neves, Accountant III
Stewart Davis, IT Officer
Gerald Robbins, Special Programs Manager
Jessica Gerard, Office Assistant

Others in Attendance

Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District
Dana Jacobson, Valley Water
Dennis Cardoza, Foley & Lardner, LLP
Mike Wade, California Farm Water Coalition
John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District
Joe McGahan, Summers Engineering
Lora Carpenter, Fieldman Rolapp & Associates
Robert Porr, Fieldman Rolapp & Associates

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cannon Michael and roll was called.

2. Board to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

No additions or corrections.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

None.

CONSENT ITEMS

4. Agenda Items 4-6: Board to Consider: a) November 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes, and November 29, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes b) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, c) Staff Reports.

On a motion of Director Rick Gilmore, seconded by Director Bill Pucheu, the Board accepted the November 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes, November 29, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes, Financial Expenditures Reports, and Staff Reports. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Howe, Bourdeau, Azhderian, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

ACTION ITEMS

5. Agenda Item 7: Board of Directors to Consider Resolution Adopting the 2022 Regular Meeting Calendar for the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors, Water Resources Committee, and Finance & Administration Committee.

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Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that included in the packet is a memo regarding regular meetings of the Board of Directors, Water Resources Committee, and Finance & Administration Committee for calendar year 2022, and a Resolution for Board approval. Barajas noted the four meeting dates outside of the normal calendar dates due to holidays, and the Spring ACWA conference.

On a motion of Director Rick Gilmore, seconded by Director William Bourdeau, the Board adopted the Resolution Adopting the 2022 Regular Meeting Calendar for the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors, Water Resources Committee, and Finance & Administration Committee. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Howe, Bourdeau, Azhderian, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

6. Agenda Item 8: Board of Directors to Consider Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023 Objectives.

Executive Director Federico Barajas provided an overview of this item. Barajas noted changes made by Water Authority staff based on direction provided by Water Resources Committee (WRC) on Monday. Barajas provided a summary of the FY2023 proposed core objective, and three proposed sub-objectives described in the staff memo. Director Tom Birmingham noted that the changes were consistent with direction provided to staff at Monday's WRC meeting.

On a motion of Director Tom Birmingham, seconded by Director Gary Kremen, the Board Adopted Fiscal Year 2023 Objectives. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Howe, Bourdeau, Azhderian, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

7. Agenda Item 9: Board of Directors to Consider Adopting Resolution Ratifying Execution of Letter Agreement (No. 22-WC-20-5911) with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Regarding Reimbursable Account for Assisting the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and its Participating Members Effectuate Water Transfers in 2022.

Special Projects Administrator Frances Mizuno reported that Water Authority staff has begun to work with potential north of the Delta sellers and Reclamation on potential water transfers in 2022. Mizuno reported that the Authority is entering into Letters of Intent with potential sellers to purchase

transfer water in 2022. Mizuno reported that in order for Reclamation to work on these transfers, the Authority is required to enter into a letter agreement to establish a reimbursable account and provide an advance deposit to Reclamation, and their time will be charged to this account. Mizuno reported that on November 16, 2021, the Authority's Executive Director signed the Letter Agreement (included in the packet) requested by Reclamation, and it is the initial step required by Reclamation to initiate 2022 water transfers discussions. Mizuno reported that in this letter, the Water Authority agrees to pay the costs incurred by Reclamation during their review and approval of the water transfer proposals for 2022. Mizuno reported that in addition to the letter, Reclamation is requesting a supporting resolution. Mizuno reported that ratifying execution of the Letter Agreement will affirm the establishment of a reimbursable account that will allow Reclamation to assist the Authority in the water transfer effort.

On a motion of Director Gary Kremen, seconded by Director David Weisenberger, the Board Adopted Resolution Ratifying Execution of Letter Agreement (No. 22-WC-20-5911) with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Regarding Reimbursable Account for Assisting the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and its Participating Members Effectuate Water Transfers in 2022. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Howe, Bourdeau, Azhderian, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

8. **Agenda Item 10: Board of Directors to Consider Grassland Basin Drainage Management Activity Agreement Steering Committee Recommendation to Adopt Resolution Adopting Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Mud Slough Restoration Project and Authorizing Related Actions.**

Agenda Item 11: Board of Directors to Consider Grassland Basin Drainage Management Activity Agreement Steering Committee Recommendation to Adopt Resolution Approving Mud Slough Restoration Project.

Joe McGahan reported that a draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated for public review on June 30, 2021. McGahan reported that comments were received from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), and the Planning & Conservation League (PCL), which resulted in minor modifications to some of the text within the Initial Study. However, they were not significant enough to cause a recirculation of the documents. McGahan reported that a summary of the comments received is included in the packet. McGahan reported that the Mud Slough Restoration Project represents the most practical alternative to restore Mud Slough flows to the Newman Lake and to satisfy the obligation of the CDFW

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MOUs, while minimizing adverse environmental impacts. McGahan reported that an Initial Study and Environmental Checklist (IS) were completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which identified mitigation measures that would reduce all impacts to less than significant levels, resulting in a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). McGahan reported that comments from CDFW, the SWRCB, and PCL resulted in some modifications to the IS and are summarized in the attached Summary of Public Comments. McGahan reported that implementation of the proposed project will require additional permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and CDFW, all of which are in progress and are awaiting compliance with CEQA to proceed. McGahan reported that a Mitigation Monitoring & Reporting Plan will be required to monitor implemented mitigation measures as required by these permits and the MND. McGahan and Water Authority staff responded to questions from Directors regarding the proposed project.

On a motion of Director Tom Birmingham, seconded by Director Rick Gilmore, the Board adopted the Resolution Adopting Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Mud Slough Restoration Project and Authorizing Related Actions, and Adopted Resolution Approving Mud Slough Restoration Project. The vote on the motion was as follows:

The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Howe, Bourdeau, Azhderian, Diedrich, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

9. Agenda Item 12: Board of Directors to Consider Adopting Resolution Authorizing a Proposal for Funding from the Department of Water Resources and Designating a Representative to Execute the Agreement and Any Amendments Thereto, for the Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project.

Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that on November 30, 2021, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) transmitted a letter to the Authority relating to DWR's administration of the Conveyance Subsidence Program. Barajas reported that the Conveyance Subsidence Program will provide funding for the rehabilitation of four sections of California's water conveyance systems to address the impacts of subsidence to the infrastructure that spans the San Joaquin Valley. Barajas reported that in the letter, DWR informed the Authority that the Delta-Mendota Canal Project ("Project") has been conditionally awarded State funding for eligible Project costs up to \$23.8 million, depending on the DWR Director's determination that the Authority has satisfied a number of conditions, information relating to which is requested by January 5, 2022. Barajas reported that the letter indicates that DWR will coordinate with the Authority to enter into a funding agreement to receive the State funding. Barajas reported that adopting the resolution will allow Authority staff to work with DWR and

Subsidence

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to execute the funding agreement and other documents necessary to meet the funding criteria. Barajas reported that the resolution further authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to prepare the necessary data, complete investigations, and take other such actions as necessary and appropriate to execute the Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project. Additional Board action will be required on certain future actions.

On a motion of Director John Varela, seconded by Director David Weisenberger, the Board adopted the Resolution Authorizing a Proposal for Funding from the Department of Water Resources and Designating a Representative to Execute the Agreement and Any Amendments Thereto, for the Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project. The vote on the motion was as follows:

The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Howe, Bourdeau, Azhderian, Diedrich, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

REPORT ITEMS

II. Agenda Item 13: Report on State and Federal Affairs.

Dennis Cardoza provided a brief update on House and Senate activities. Cardoza reported that the 2nd Infrastructure Bill has stalled in the Senate and is not likely to move until next year.

Cardoza reported that the EPA and the Army Core of Engineers officially published a proposed rule revising the definition of WOTUS the rule, which would effectively restore it to the pre-2015 definition and would include updates to reflect Supreme Court decisions that have come since that time. Cardoza reported that comments are due February 7, 2022.

Bill Ball reported that the Senate passed a resolution to block the Federal vaccine mandate, and they will continue to track this.

Kristin Olsen reported on SB559 Canal Subsidence bill. Olsen reported that the Authority will take be taking on a lead role for the coalition partners around this effort, and in early January decisions on the bill or possibly bills will be moving forward to address the subsidence issues.

Cardoza suggested reserving some time during the January Board meeting to discuss changes in legislators.

12. Agenda Item 14: Discussion Regarding Estimated Cost of San Luis Transmission Project to Contractors that Take Delivery of Water from Project Works.

Special Projects Administrator Frances Mizuno described the current PUE cost allocation process. Mizuno reported that prior to the new fiscal year, Reclamation estimates total PUE expenses and estimates load for each meter for the upcoming year. Mizuno reported that with SLTP the allocation

process remains the same. Mizuno reported that the only change is that there will be no TAC charges related to transmission process for the San Luis Unit and instead TAC charges will be replaced with the annual fixed SLTP rate under the Transmission Service Agreement with WAPA. Mizuno reported that the preliminary SLTP collection and payment process is as follows: 1) SLDMWA invoices WAPA with copy to USBR for annual rate minus estimated revenue, 2) Reclamation uses the invoice amount to include in their PUE expense allocation to all meters, 3) Reclamation invoices SLDMWA its share of the PUE with SLTP as a separate line item, 4) Reclamation incorporates the remaining SLTP cost in PUE rates for CVP Contractors including direct pumpers to be paid based on deliveries for that year, 5) WAPA will invoice Reclamation equal monthly payments, 6) Reclamation pays WAPA equal monthly payments based on invoice, 7) WAPA pays SLDMWA equal monthly payments. Invoices will be sent by the first of each month and WAPA will pay within 30 days. 8) WAPA will be required to pay whether USBR makes payment to WAPA or not, 9) SLDMWA will receive WAPA payment by the end of each month and will make annual debt payment on October 15 and April 15. Mizuno also provided an illustration of the 35-year ascending debt service. Mizuno will provide copy of presentation materials to the Board members after the meeting.

13. Agenda Item 15: Executive Director's Report.

a) **B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave is leading coordination on a technical team meeting to be scheduled in the near future.

b) **Pacheco Reservoir** – Director Jeff Cattaneo reported that the draft EIR is out for review.

c) **Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir** – Director Anthea Hansen reported that in early 2022 Reclamation should have the draft EIS out for public review. Hansen reported that they are on the agenda for next week's California Water Commission meeting to receive determination of consistency by the required deadline of December 31, 2021.

d) **Budget Workshop** - Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that a Budget Workshop is scheduled December 14, 2021, at 12:30.

14. Agenda Item 16: Chief Operating Officer's Report.

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported Chauncey Lee has been selected for the O&M Manager position.

Arroyave reported that the ACWA JPIA honored the Authority, thanks to safety manager Frank Ramos, for creation of a Confined Space Technical Rescue Team that meets CAL OSHA requirements.

Arroyave reported that Reclamation has indicated that the Authority will receive the SLR balance report through October 31, 2021 in the next week.

15. **Agenda Item 17: Update on Water Operations and Forecasts**

Westlands Water District's Tom Boardman reported that Shasta storage remains low at about 1.12 MAF which is 4 TAF lower than last week. Storage conditions are expected to improve with approaching storms during the next week. Folsom storage was reported to be near the 15-year average, but snowpack is essentially zero. Boardman further reported that the incoming storms will likely improve the snowpack. It was explained the Delta outflow requirement is limiting Delta pumping to minimum levels and that Jones will increase to a 3-unit operation early next week when higher Sacramento River flows are expected to arrive in the Delta.

Reclamation has completed its payback of 100 TAF that was exchanged between the SWP and CVP during late summer. Boardman reported on current storage in San Luis while mentioning that the CVP share could refill enough under median rainfall to support allocations of 5-15% to ag and 55-65% to urban contractors.

16. **Agenda Item 18: Committee Reports.**

- a. **Water Resources Committee** – Chair Tom Birmingham reported that the committee met, and addressed agenda items.
- b. **Finance & Administration Committee** – Chair Rick Gilmore reported that the committee met, and addressed agenda items.
- c. **O&M Committee** – No report.

17. **Agenda Item 19: Outside Agency/Organization Reports.**

- a. **State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA)**
No report.
- b. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)**
Report included in the packet.
- c. **Farm Water Coalition.**
Mike Wade reported that they are continuing their work on Authority external affairs activities as directed by Water Policy Director Scott Petersen, and are working with CalStrat and the Foley team.
- d. **Association of California Water Agencies**
Director Bill Diedrich provided a brief recap of the ACWA conference.
Director John Varela reported that Region 5 of ACWA hosted a special meeting on Diversity through Education, and it was very well attended. Varela thanked Executive Director Federico Barajas for attending.
Director William Bourdeau thanked Director Bill Diedrich for his great work on the Ag Committee.
- e. **San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint Effort**
No report.
- f. **CVPWA**
No report.

18. Agenda Item 20: Board Member Reports.

No report.

19. Agenda Items 21-22: Closed Session Report.

Chair Cannon Michael adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:48 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 1:14 p.m., General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd stated that no reportable actions were taken.

20. Agenda Item 23: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 (a) (3)

No reports.

21. Agenda Item 26: Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.



January 13, 2022

To: Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer

From: Bob Martin, Facilities O&M Director

Subject: O&M Report for December 2021

Operations Department

The C.W. "Bill" Jones Pumping Plant (JPP) operated with 1-5 units through December. The average rate of pumping for the JPP was 1,812 cfs for the month of December.

Total pumping at the JPP for December was 111,428 acre-feet (AF). The O'Neill Pump/Generating Plant (OPP) generated 3,485 AF, and pumped 83,516 AF for the month of December. The Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie Plant (DCI) pumped 3,774 AF and zero AF was reversed from the California Aqueduct to the DMC.

The Federal share in the San Luis Reservoir at the end of December was 102,386 AF, as compared to 375,126 AF at the end of December 2020.

During the month of December, releases from Friant Dam ranged from 563 to 630 cfs with 10,396 AF entering the Mendota Pool. Flows past the Mendota Dam for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) were 9,689 AF for the month of December.

Canal Operations staff performed open channel and closed-pipe flow measurements, routine patrols, bi-weekly meter readings, water samples, well soundings, and meter maintenance during the month. Coordinated flow testing was conducted with the USBR and Fish & Wildlife in the Volta Wildlife Area, and also with the USBR at the San Joaquin River Bi-furcation structure during December.

Control Operations switching/clearance placements performed this month:

- C-21-JP-73 JU1&2, West Tube, JU1 BFV Test
- C-21-JP-74 JU5 Exciter Brush change and Inspection
- C-21-JP-75 JU5 Exciter Brush change and slip ring repair
- C-21-ON-77 Inspect OU4 motor housing for oil
- C-21-DM-81 Replace TO Gate @ MP 93.27L
- C-21-DM-82 Replace TO Gate @ MP 48.60LA
- C-21-JP-83 JPP Unwatering Sump Pit, remove fish
- C-21-JP-78 JPP Unit 1 Stator Rewind, rotor rehab and suction elbow entry
- C-21-DCI-79 DCI 4160 Volt bus de-energization for fan work
- C-21-JP-80 OU4 Oil investigation, cleanup and distributor rod repair

Civil Maintenance Department

The Civil Maintenance crews worked on the following projects this month:

- DMC Installed 24-inch turnout gates at MP 48.70 and MP 93.27 with use of divers
- DMC ROW tree removal
- Drain inlet and overchute cleaning
- Grading and repair of DMC, SLD, and Wasteway operating roads
- LBFO & TFO minor facility repairs
- Install security gates and wing fences
- Garbage collection on DMC and Wasteways
- Chemical and mechanical weed control on DMC and SLD
- Installation of stairs and handrails to DMC turnout gates and meters
- Maintenance and repairs to float lines, signs, fences, guard rails and gates

Plant Maintenance Department

The Plant Maintenance crews worked on the following projects this month:

Electrical/C&I Staff:

- OPP Cooling water pump and strainer repairs
- JPP Unit 1 preparation for re-assembly
- DMC Check support for upgrade from 3G to 4G cellular service
- DMC check 10 control system repairs
- OPP Unit 4 oil leak and cleanup
- JPP protective relay testing
- DMC check electrical PM
- LBFO well pump electrical wiring repairs
- DCI HVAC controls

Mechanical Staff:

- OPP cooling water pump and valve repairs
- OPP packing water repairs
- JPP Unit 1 Rewind support (rotor and bridge installation)
- JPP Unit 1 new bearing installation and set up
- JPP industrial water pump repairs
- JPP sandblast & paint, including deck plates, hand rails, fans, and bearings from JPP Unit 1
- OPP Unit 4 oil leak repairs ongoing, due to ring failures in the distributor valve for the vane control system
- JPP Unit 5 slip rings and carbon brush repairs
- DCI fan and louver repairs

USBR Support Services

Water Authority crews performed the following work at USBR facilities this month:

- Tracy Fish Collection Facility trash rack cleaning support
- Tracy Fish Collection Facility holding tank #1 control switch repair

Engineering Department

The Engineering staff worked on the following regular O&M projects this month:

- JPP Unit 1 rewind project, including thrust bearing inspection and repairs
- JPP Unit 4 rewind project
- JPP switchgear buildings relay settings update
- Upper DMC 3G to 4G communication upgrades

- Data management of well readings and creation of Warren Act hydrographs
- TFCF secondary channel equipment support
- JPP/OPP electrical drawings update
- JPP industrial water settling basin repair
- TFO canal maintenance yard storm drainage design
- JPP Asphalt repair design
- O&M PM setup and asset management in NetSuite
- OPP Unit 3 vane control calibration
- TFO breaker modifications per JPP Arc Flash 2018
- OPP cooling water system rehabilitation
- UZ11A bushing box replacement and repairs
- OPP Concrete wall cracks monitoring.
- Replacement of 2X relay in the Jones units
- OPP Service Water Pump Rehabilitation

Land Management Activity Summary

The Engineering staff issued three (3) access permits this month:

- Access permit P2202026 was issued to Del Puerto Water District for a temporary turnout/truck water filling station located on the Delta-Mendota Canal near MP 45.78-R.
- Access permit P2202029 was issued to Turlock Irrigation District to perform corrosion maintenance on the existing utility poles located on the Westley Wasteway right-of-way.
- Access permit P2202030 was issued to Central California Irrigation District to conduct a cultural and biological survey for the Orestimba Creek Recharge/Recovery Expansion Project near MP 48.97-L, from MP 51.00-L to MP 51.65-L, MP 52.40-L, and Newman Wasteway from MP 0.00 to MP 1.44.

The Engineering staff were involved with the following land management projects this month:

- Development of general land management standard requirements for adjacent developments
- Orestimba Creek Recharge Project
- Santa Nella WD Sewer and Water Crossing
- Costco Annexation Project, Tracy, CA
- Tracy Hills Commerce Center, Tracy, CA
- Schulte Warehouse Annexation, Tracy, CA
- City of Patterson – Sperry Road developments & Baldwin Ranch comments
- International Parkway Bridge Replacement, PROLOGIS -Tracy, CA – Plan Review and provided comments
- PGE pipeline relocation @ MP 92.73 – ongoing
- PID MP 42.51 plan review and approval

Safety Department

The Safety Department worked on the following items this month:

- Provided Job Hazard Analysis support for the crews
- Conducted Weekly Safety Tailgate talks with Maintenance and Operations crews
- Sent out Weekly Safety Tailgate Topics: 12-1 Backing Up Safety, 12-2 Emergency Preparedness, 12-3 Snakes in the Workplace, 12-4 Personal Protective Equipment

- Provided Safety Message for December Monthly Newsletter: 12/2021 Christmas Tree Safety
- Conducted Facility Safety Inspections
- Conducted Fall Protection Harness & Lanyard inspections

Work & Asset Management and Procurement Department

The Work & Asset Management Department worked on the following items this month:

Contracts/PO Agreements/LOA's Status Update

- F22-OPP-059 - OPP Main Transformer Rehabilitation solicitation document development in progress; estimated release date is planned for February/March 2022
- F22-DMC-065- Feasibility Study RFP was released on November 19, due by January 11, 2022; internal meeting scheduled 1/5/22
- F22-ALL-066- Annual and 5 year tests Fire Sprinkler Testing—Johnson Controls was awarded the contract and inspections are being scheduled
- F22-DMC-068 O'Neill Pumping Plant Cathodic Protection System—Contract executed 12/21
- F22-DMC-069 Cellular Gateway Migration—Under contract with Volo, pending scheduling/waiting for parts
- RFP document prepared for Investment Advisory Services; sent to Pablo for review 12/30; estimated release date 2nd-3rd week of January.
- Analytical testing completed for hazardous waste; hazardous waste pickup to be completed in January (vendor McCampbell Analytical, Inc.)

Ongoing:

- Purchasing in support of the O&M crews and maintaining/replenishing warehouse stock
- Warehouse receiving, stocking and distribution
- Invoicing/vendor bills/vendor credits processing
- Janitorial cleaning & disinfecting per COVID-19 guidelines
- Contract Management/Administration Activities, including bi-weekly contract update meetings with Engineering Staff
- Developing/implementing purchasing/procurement and asset/inventory procedures/boilerplate templates
- Bi-weekly WAM staff meetings to discuss updates/issues
- Contract invoice payment reviews, invoice disputes as needed, invoice payments
- Continuous testing for improvements to procedures in NetSuite, as well as ongoing issues related to NetSuite constraints
- Establishing/Developing Blanket Contracts and PO agreements
- Reviewing and closing out old/open PO's in NetSuite

Information Technology Department

The Information Technology Department worked on the following items this month:

- NetSuite
 - Online training, User and Administration
 - Bi-Weekly Implementation Team meetings
- Continuing support for our "Work at Home" users
- Assisted with monthly FAC, WRC and BOD meetings with Zoom
- Desktop support calls.
- Planning server refresh

- Planning laptop refresh
- Planning upgrading/replacing copiers
- Monitor Symantec Anti-Virus Management Console
- Assist SCADA with 3G to 4G cell migration for DMC check structures
 - Worked closely with Vendors; AT&T and VOLO
- Security updates on servers
- Update firmware on firewall
- Update additional AV security settings
- Purchased, configured and deployed new station to General Council
- Email server upgrade
 - Completed

Human Resources Department

The Human Resources Department worked on the following items this month:

General Administrative Activities:

- Recruitments:
 - Heavy Equipment Operator, Tracy (continued recruitment)
 - Hydro Electric Electrician, Tracy (continued recruitment)
 - Plant Engineer, Tracy (continued recruitment)
 - Water Operations Superintendent (interviews scheduled)
 - Maintenance Workers, Tracy
- Background checks for PIV cards (continuing)

Trainings/ Conferences:

- Remain up to date with webinars to ensure compliance with new legislation as it pertains to COVID-19
- Cyber Security Training (all staff being scheduled for training)
- Sexual Harassment Prevention Training (staff being scheduled for bi-annual training)

Government Reporting:

- Merced County Public Health COVID Reporting (on-going)
- State Controller's Report
- CalPERS Report
- EEO-4 report
- Affirmative Action report
- Federal Contractors Portal (OFCCP)

Ongoing:

- COVID Protocols
- FMLA notices/follow ups
- COBRA notices/follow ups
- Worker's Comp follow ups
- Monthly safety points distribution
- Health benefits eligibility/employee assistance
- Maintain OSHA logs for calendar year
- Wellness program

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL (DMC)

Bridge Abutment Repair at MP 92.73

Status: The abutment repair is on hold until PG&E relocates the pipeline. The 6-inch pipe owned by PG&E that crosses under the bridge, adjacent to the abutment, is the main transmission line for the City of Dos Palos. All parties have agreed that it would be a safety hazard to conduct work with the gas line in place, and PG&E is currently planning to remove the existing pipeline from the bridge and HDD install a new pipeline under the canal. PG&E has performed geotechnical explorations to support their design effort and plan for the 30% design review in January. PG&E, SLDMWA, and Reclamation are meeting monthly to keep the project moving forward.

DMC Subsidence Correction Project

Status: SLDMWA is working closely with Reclamation to complete the tasks identified in the Financial Assistance Agreement (FA Agreement) that was executed on 9/24/2021 after acquiring Board approval. Phase 1 Geotechnical work has been completed and funding will be reimbursed as a pre-incurred task identified in the FA Agreement. SLDMWA completed the Feasibility Study Request for Proposals and posted publically on November 19th. The RFP includes Cultural and Environmental efforts in addition to the Feasibility Report. All proposals are due January 11th, with the Notice of Award scheduled after the February 10, 2022 Board Meeting. The deliverable of the Feasibility Report is expected to be completed in approximately one year, with certain environmental permitting extending longer.

DWR notified SLDMWA that the DMC Subsidence Project was conditionally awarded state funding up to \$23.8M. This month was spent developing the work plan, budget, and cash flow exhibits to apply for the funding.

The SLDMWA is providing support to Reclamation as they manage the construction contract with Unico Services to install the two additional pumps at the DMC/CA Intertie Pumping Plant (DCI). Mobilization is scheduled to occur on February 7th, with a project completion date of March 28.

DMC Turnout Flowmeter Upgrade Program – Phase 2

Status: Phase 2 is underway. SLDMWA is working with McCrometer on the contract creation, which will include the purchase of 62 flowmeters equipped with telemetry through the SLDMWA sole source procedure. The contract is expected to be executed after the January board meeting. Final delivery of meters is expected by Fall 2022.

DMC O&M Road Maintenance Program, Phase 1 of 10

Status: Job complete.

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

C.W. "BILL" JONES PUMPING PLANT (JPP)

JPP Excitation Cabinet & Control Panel Refurbishment (FY2018 Project)

Status: Site visit was completed in March by USBR Denver Office staff to evaluate the installation plans for the project. Additional funds have been requested to complete the project. The SLDMWA processed additional funds to the USBR for engineering on this project to continue in November and we are awaiting an updated schedule. USBR TSC will visit the Jones plant in January to perform a hazardous material assessment associated with this project.

JPP Unit No. 5 Rewind

Status: Project is complete. The final invoice has been approved by Reclamation and partial payment was received in July. Reclamation has funds for final payment, and is beginning the paperwork process to complete the final payment. USBR has yet to pay the complete amount of the final invoice, \$584,337.95 is remaining due to the SLDMWA.

JPP Unit No. 1 Rewind

Status: NEC completed their work on 12/19/2021. Reassembly of the unit by the SLDMWA has started. The updated schedule has Unit 1 returning to service on 1/25/2022. The previous return to service date was 11/19/2021. Performance testing is tentatively scheduled for January 31 – Feb 4. The thrust bearings, upper guide bearing, thrust runner and pump bearing were all sent to Kingsbury Inc. in Yuba City for repair. All components have been picked up from Kingsbury and reassembly is underway and is scheduled to be complete by the end of January.

JPP Unit No. 4 Rewind

Status: Due to steel shortages and price increases in Europe, the SLDMWA issued the Notice to Proceed and initial payment early for the Unit 4 Rewind in June and materials were successfully secured. The schedule for Unit 4 has been adjusted accordingly due to the Unit 1 delay. Disassembly by SLDMWA staff is scheduled to begin February 21, 2022, previously December 9, 2021. A pre-teardown vibrational study is being scheduled to be performed by Bently Nevada January 18 and 19, to provide comparison data for the post-rewind vibration study. All of the laminations for Unit 4 were manufactured in November were shipped from Poland on December 6, 2021.

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

JPP/OPP/DCI Fire Protection Systems Assessment

Status: The Water Authority awarded a contract to FRA to perform a systems assessment in January 2021. The site surveys and exchange of documents are complete. Final reports have been received and engineering is currently preparing an implementation plan. Engineering estimates provided by the consultant total \$500K. Anticipate EO&M construction projects for FY24, as Reclamation will likely want to review the modifications to their facilities.

JPP Wear Ring Purchase

Status: No activity this month.

O'NEILL PUMPING/GENERATING PLANT (OPP)

Main Transformers Rehabilitation/Replacement Project

Status: Completed data collection, design, and technical specifications. Latest oil test results were reviewed by TSC and confirmed that postponing the rehabilitation project a year is acceptable. Oil monitoring will continue and the next oil test is in January 2022. The RFP is almost ready and is planned to be released at the end of March 2022. The construction is tentatively scheduled to start March 2023, and the outage to start in April 2023.

Arc Flash Hazard Analysis, Facility Rating, & Protective Relays Reviews (Electrical Equipment Periodic Reviews)

Status: The Facility Rating Review has been received. The personal protective grounds were upgraded per recommendations from the Facility Rating Review. Performed an inspection of the Unit Buses. A report of the findings will be provided to TSC per recommendation. The Arc Flash Hazard Analysis draft has been received. The Protective Relays Review is still pending.

Pump Bowl Modification (Design and USBR Approval)

Status: SLDMWA is pursuing obtaining the replacement pump bowl design and construction from Pentair, the original manufacturer of the pump, with the intent of receiving one bowl per year beginning in FY23. An LOA will be established with the BOR to review and approve Pentair's design.

Penstock Cathodic Protection System Replacement

Status: Construction contract awarded to Farwest. Adequate insurance is being verified before the kickoff meeting can be conducted.

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

UPS Battery Charging System Replacement

Status: No activity this month. Installation is to be timed concurrent with the outage for the transformer rehabilitation at OPP (April/May 2023). Equipment purchase for this job will occur 6 months prior to the transformer project starting.

TRACY FACILITIES (TFO)

TFO Domestic Water Treatment Plant Replacement

Status: Water quality testing occurred in November with results provided mid-December. Package Plant vendors will be solicited for updated quotes based on water quality results.

Treatment Plant Drainage: SLDMWA Engineers proposed modifications to the drainage design. These modifications are currently being implemented into construction plans. Final drainage design is expected to be finalized by end of January 2022.

MULTIPLE FACILITIES: TFO/ LBFO/ DCI

Arc Flash Hazard Analysis

Status: No activity this month. Received the project management plan from TSC and the letter of agreement draft from Reclamation Tracy Office. Site work is tentatively scheduled for June/July 2022.



STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members and Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

DATE: January 13, 2022

RE: Update on Science Program

SUMMARY

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority's ("Water Authority") current science commitments for Fiscal Year 22 (March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022) may be considered in three categories. First, the Water Authority re-budgeted \$245,252 in the current budget to fund eight activities and/or studies previously authorized to be funded. Second, the Water Authority began the year with approximately \$4,628 in funds remaining from the State and Federal Contractors Water Agency ("SFCWA") to fund one study initially authorized by SFCWA and transferred to the Water Authority for funding and management. Third, the Water Authority has budgeted \$450,000 in the current budget for science studies. More detail regarding the various science commitments is provided below. In total, the Water Authority started the current fiscal year with approximately \$924,089 available to fund science, of which \$644,089 has been obligated.

1. Previous Commitments - \$245,252 in FY 22 Budget

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	FY 22 Budget
Joint Funding of Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making Phase 3	This funding would support management and technical analyses required to conduct Phase 3 for the CSAMP Delta Smelt Structure Decision Making (SDM) project. Technical analyses would include modeling and the application of other analytical tools to evaluate the consequences of proposed management actions for Delta Smelt as well as the evaluation of potential consequences to other resource values including water supply and agriculture. Phase 3 was scheduled to occur from September 2020 to September 2021, but has been delayed.	\$75,000
Joint Funding for Hanson Environmental as CAMT Technical Support	This funding would support continued CAMT participation by Dr. Charles Hanson through a contract with the State Water Contractors. Dr. Hanson assists in the development of various	\$30,000

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	workplans and products, including Charters, presentations, whitepapers, and other materials to support collaborative science.	
Development of eDNA monitoring tool for detection of Delta Smelt	Goal to develop an accepted eDNA monitoring tool for species detection in tidally mixed aquatic ecosystems in the Delta, and to advance eDNA aquatic monitoring towards a state-of-science that can be applied in the context of scientific, policy, and regulatory decision-making	\$63,000
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Fallowing Pilot Evapotranspiration Monitoring Program	Study between April 1, 2018 and September 30, 2018 of consumptive use on between 2,000 and 4,000 acres in the legal Delta during the 2018 irrigation season. Goal to identify a method of reliable measurement of the reduction in consumptive use associated with temporary crop idling on lands within the legal Delta.	\$7,000
Interior Delta Export Effects Study	<p>Study of specific data gaps related to export operation effects on juveniles salmonids. Goal to fill information gaps on juvenile salmonid survival in the south Delta to update salmonid loss models, optimize survival for salmonids near salvage facilities, and support water reliability through enhanced coordinated operations.</p> <p>Last year, the Study didn't receive its anticipated Proposition 1 grant to go to scale, so Authority funding provided for the study to continue and provide capacity for a grant application for the recent Proposition 1 grant funding notification, which was recently awarded.</p>	\$25,000
Delta Smelt Incidental Take Limit Research	Funds support the evaluation of differences in salvage between pre- and post-BiOp conditions and the determination of how much variance in salvage can be explained by each of the predictor variables. Support provided to ICF Jones & Stokes, Inc., through a cost share with SWC.	\$14,252
CAMT Facilitation	Funds support facilitation and assistance with CAMT and CSAMP meetings. Main contracts with Essex Partnership (Bruce DiGennaro) and Hansen Environmental (Chuck Hansen) held by SWC.	\$55,000

2. SFCWA-Funded Studies Being Managed by the Water Authority - \$4,628 Remaining

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	SFCWA Funds Remaining
Measuring Impact of Control of yellow Starthistle in the Northern Sac. Valley and Superior California on Watershed Runoff and Groundwater Levels	Study of the water benefits of yellow Starthistle (YST) control. If there appears to be replicable water supply benefit from YST removal, will prepare plan of recommended YST removal in California that results in increased runoff and/or improved groundwater levels.	\$4,628

3. New Science - \$450,000 in FY 22 Budget

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	FY 22 Budget
Science Studies/Efforts		\$450,000
CSAMP Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making Phase 3	This funding would support management and technical analyses required to conduct Phase 3 for the CSAMP Delta Smelt Structure Decision Making (SDM) project. Technical analyses would include modeling and the application of other analytical tools to evaluate the consequences of proposed management actions for Delta Smelt as well as the evaluation of potential consequences to other resource values including water supply and agriculture. Phase 3 was scheduled to occur from September 2020 to September 2021, but has experienced delays.	\$65,000
Delta Coordination Group Summer Fall Habitat Action Structured Decision Making Facilitation Support	Funds support facilitation and assistance with Delta Coordination Group Structured Decision Making for Delta Coordination Group recommendations to Reclamation and DWR related to Summer Fall Habitat Actions in the Biological Opinions and State Incidental Take Permit	\$25,000
Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley Education Fund	Facilitation support for the Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley Education Fund	\$10,000

FUTURE SCIENCE PROGRAM DIRECTION

The recently released federal Biological Opinions require annual scientific review of the Reasonable and Prudent Measures scientific panel review in years 4 and 8 of the implementation of the Biological Opinions.

It is anticipated that increased engagement on scientific studies to prepare sufficient scientific bodies of knowledge on the adaptive management provisions of the new biological opinions will be necessary from public water agencies in order to adequately prepare for the 4- and 8-year

scientific review of the implementation of the new Biological Opinions. Staff is coordinating with CSAMP/CAMT, as well as Reclamation, NOAA Fisheries and U.S. FWS to determine anticipated annual scientific investments necessary to prepare for the scientific panels.

Authority staff is planning to focus on key areas for the 2021 and future budgets, in order to assist in the development of a more coordinated science strategy between public water agencies and state and federal agencies who fund the scientific enterprise. Specifically, these recommended areas are:

- Technical Support for Authority Engagement in Regulatory Processes
- Steelhead Monitoring and Protection
- Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making Scientific Expertise
- CSAMP/CAMT Support
- Delta Coordination Group Support
- Development of Voluntary Agreement Science Plan
- Permit Streamlining

Technical Support for Authority Engagement in Regulatory Processes

The Authority has need of additional biological expertise to provide comments and a higher level of engagement with regulatory entities, including the State Water Resources Control Board, NOAA Fisheries, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and others. Authority staff has executed master service agreements with 9 consultants for scientific and biological support services for on-demand services centered on the areas of expertise of the respective consultant and staffing availability. Specifically, staff anticipates need for additional technical and science expertise related to engagement in the reconsultation of the long-term biological opinions for the operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, the anticipated listing determination for longfin smelt by the US FWS, the anticipated listing determination and rulemaking process for the foothill yellow legged frog, and others.

Steelhead Monitoring and Protection

The status of steelhead population trends continues to pose a threat to water supply reliability for south-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors. Significant data gaps exist in the scientific body of knowledge regarding steelhead, including a method for estimating population levels and continued support of the I/E ratio in state level regulatory proposals. Steelhead species receive less funding than other scientific research, indicating an opportunity where the Authority could add value to the scientific enterprise. Specifically, there is a need for better data analysis and synthesis for steelhead.

Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making Scientific Expertise

Compass Resources, who manages the Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making process, has identified a need for a biologist for biological resource support, including literature searches that would better inform the SDM process. The Authority and the State Water Contractors are jointly funding this expertise.

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CSAMP/CAMT Support

The Authority has remained engaged in CSAMP/CAMT and has jointly funded facilitation support, technical support and scientific studies related to management actions associated with project operations.

Delta Coordination Group Support

Authority staff is a member of the Delta Coordination Group (DCG), a group formed this year pursuant to Reclamation's Proposed Action and the Incidental Take Permit for the Coordinated Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. The DCG is charged with providing recommendations to Reclamation/DWR pertaining to Summer-Fall Habitat Actions for delta smelt.

Development of Voluntary Agreement Science Plan

The Authority has previously funded facilitation of the Governance, Science and Adaptive Management Working Group and staff is proposing to continue that commitment through contributing funds for the development of the Science Plan for implementation of the Voluntary Agreements.

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